

3743
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re patent application of

Okamoto

Serial No. 09/198,376

Group Art Unit 3743

Filed November 24, 1998

Examiner Flanigan, Allen J.

For THERMAL CONTROL DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 20, 2002, the Applicants request reconsideration with the following amendment.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 29.

REMARKS

Claim 29 has been canceled as being duplicative of claim 27 and being dependent on canceled claim 28. Claims 1, 4-6, 26, and 27 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 4, 26, 27, and 29 have been rejected as being obvious over Japaneses Kokai 1-229800 to Genshiro in view of Urushibara (*Physical Review* 51 14 103 (May 15, 1995)) and U.S. Patent 4,310,596 to Van Buskirk. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent 5,562,154 to Benson in view of Urushibara in view of Van Buskirk. Each of these rejections is traversed.

As the Examiner will recognize from the file history, the invention described and claimed in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/198,376 is directed to a heat control device that includes a variable phase substance which has a phase variation at room temperature and a method of using that variable phase substance